

# The Holy Apostles

DUMBARTON OAKS SYMPOSIUM, 24–26 APRIL 2015

SYMPOSIARCHS: Margaret Mullett and Robert Ousterhout

In the early years of Dumbarton Oaks, one of the research projects initiated by A. M. Friend was devoted to the church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople. This early humanities collaboration of a literary scholar (Glanville Downey), an architectural historian (Paul Underwood), and an art historian (Friend) represented an attempt to reconstruct a lost building. A three-volume publication on the subject was envisaged, and a symposium was held in 1948, in which major scholars were involved, with Sirarpie Der Nersessian as symposiarch. Friend gave two lectures on the reconstruction of the lost mosaic cycle and Underwood spoke about the architecture. Der Nersessian herself gave two lectures on mosaics, while Downey spoke about literary texts, Milton Anastos about imperial theology, and Francis Dvornik

about the patriarch Photios. As Kurt Weitzmann summarized, “It was a very unified program, demonstrating how Friend had been able to get every scholar at Dumbarton Oaks involved in his project.”

Unlike the Dumbarton Oaks projects on Norman Sicily or on Venice, the results of the Holy Apostles initiative were never published, nor was the 1948 symposium. Some materials survive in ICFA from the project, also unpublished. Nevertheless, the church of the Holy Apostles continues to attract scholarly attention from philologists, historians, and art historians. In the seventy-fifth year of Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks, this symposium, devoted to the church of the Holy Apostles, completes the task of those early years by assessing the significance of the church, its milieu, and its legacy.

FRIDAY, 24 APRIL

*Introduction*

Margaret Mullett (Dumbarton Oaks)

I: DUMBARTON OAKS AND THE HOLY APOSTLES

*Introduction: Symposium, Project, Monument, and Visualization*

Margaret Mullett

*The Early Days of Dumbarton Oaks, the Holy Apostles Symposium, and St. Sophia in Washington, DC*

James Carder (Dumbarton Oaks) and

Robert Nelson (Yale University and CASVA)

## II: FOUNDATIONS

*Constantine's Apostoleion: A Reappraisal*

Mark J. Johnson (Brigham Young University)

*Justinian's Church of the Holy Apostles in the Context of Early Byzantine Church Architecture*

Slobodan Ćurčić (Princeton University, emeritus)

## III: LITERATURE AND MEMORY

*Apostolic Memory: The Literature of Early Christianity in Byzantium*

Scott Johnson (Georgetown University and Dumbarton Oaks)

*Rewriting the Apostles for Byzantium*

Christian Høgel (University of Southern Denmark)

*Apostolic Succession and Byzantine Theology*

George Demacopoulos (Fordham University)

## SATURDAY, 25 APRIL

### IV: THE MIDDLE BYZANTINE HOLY APOSTLES I:

#### THE NINTH AND TENTH CENTURIES

*Around and About the Holy Apostles*

Paul Magdalino (Koç University)

*Constantine the Rhodian and His Contemporaries*

Floris Bernard (University of Gent)

*Creating the Mosaics of the Holy Apostles*

Liz James (University of Sussex)

### V: THE MIDDLE BYZANTINE HOLY APOSTLES II:

#### THE KOMNENIAN ERA

*The Logos of Nicholas Mesarites*

Ruth Macrides (University of Birmingham)

*Inside and Outside the Holy Apostles with Nicholas Mesarites*

Henry Maguire (Johns Hopkins University, emeritus)

*The Church of the Holy Apostles and Its Place in Later Byzantine Architecture*

Robert Ousterhout (University of Pennsylvania)

## SUNDAY, 26 APRIL

### VI: LEGACIES

*Gennadios Scholarios and the Patriarchate*

Nevra Necipoğlu (Boğaziçi University)

*What a Difference a Decade Makes: Mehmed the Conqueror, Fatih, Camii and the Holy Apostles*

Julian Raby (Smithsonian Institution)

## CONCLUSIONS

Robert Ousterhout